

iii) the molar ratio of the total quantity of added phenylglycine derivative to the total quantity of added 6-APA is less than 2.5.

4. (Twice Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the total phenylglycine derivative employed to 6-APA is less than 2.0.

9. (Twice Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the pH of the reaction mixture is lowered.

10. (Twice Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the temperature of the reaction mixture is lowered.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-10 will be pending, of which claim 1 is independent. The above amendments were made to further clarify the instant invention and address the Examiner's §112 concerns noted in the Advisory Action Paper No. 11). Support for these changes can be found throughout the specification, accordingly no new matter has been introduced and entry of this Amendment is proper.

The claims stand rejected under 35 USC §102 or, in the alternative, 35 USC §103 as being anticipated or obvious over WO 92 01061 (WO '061), WO 95 03420 (WO '420), or WO 96 02663 (WO '663). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.